

## The Forester



www.fpcivic.org

Volume 56 Issue 09

**Forest Park Civic Association** 

SEPTEMBER, 2020

How does your Garden Grow?



## All the flowers, All the colors, All in a perfect row







#### Forest Park Blockwatch

Check email, social media for next meeting date

\*\*\*\*

### **FPCA Meeting**

**Next Meeting Scheduled for** 

**September 8, 2020 - 7 pm** 

Check the website, fpcivic.org for instructions as to whether this meeting is online or in person

## 161 Task Force Clean Up Day

9 am, meet behind the Jiffy Lube on 161 Wear sturdy shoes, tools provided

\*\*\*

FPCA is looking for 70 more memberships
To meet our 2020 Goal!
Remember every membership means more
for your neighborhood, pg 7

#### FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & REPRESENTATIVES

#### **PRESIDENT**

Felix Quachey......614-595-7871 FQuachey@AmFam.com **VICE PRESIDENT** 

Scott Prigan......614-523-2420 Scottprigan@gmail.com

**TREASURER** 

Dan Hartzell......614-846-2784

**SECRETARY** 

Lou Bernard ......614-430-8161

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** 

Mary Sguerra......614-506-7540

**FORESTER EDITOR** 

Rita Woeste......614-785-1555

forester\_ed@fpcivic.org

**SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY** Daryl Van Mercetta.....513-479-2416

**BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE** 

Alan Ray.....aray.bergahorn@gmail.com Sheridan Landon....sheridanlandon@yahoo.com

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR** 

Mike Stone......614-218-1788

**PAST PRESIDENT** 

Ed Vanasdale......614-847-1494

WELCOME COMMITTEE CHAIR.

Ellin Ray.....eclaire1226@gmail.com

**NCC REPRESENTATIVE** 

Felix Quachey......614-595-7871

**Forest Park Social Activities Committee** 

Pamela Weaver ......pweaver1208@gmail.com

WEBSITE

Scott Prigan ......614-523-2420

#### **AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **Forest Park West**

- 1. Rhonda White ....614-805-4850 or Ernie Mack......614-436-6241 or Mike Stone......614-218-1788
- 2. Bob Hinebaugh......614-885-0691 3. Eric Kreig......614-329-3272
- 4. Marie Frankenfield .419-512-3892
- 5. Laurie Burkland.....614-301-5026 Linda Ridenour

#### **Forest Park East**

- 6. Cindy Fenstermaker614-323-3173
- 7. Rick Bennett......614-774-7963
- 8 Madeline Hatch .....614-499-6655 Frances Link ......614-657-9510
- 9. Jane Dean ......614-468-1940 Patricia Davis .....614-371-0567
- 10. Hilda Johnson......614-515-7711
- 11. Linda Whitmore..614-890-1065 or Dave Paul......614-325-8217
- 12. Rita Price......614-776-4316
- 13. **VACANCY.....**
- 14. VACANCY......

City Code Enforcement

#### **FORESTER DEADLINE**

For any other information please call Joel Kin, 614-357-1167. Advertisements can be emailed (camera ready) to:

> forester ed@fpcivic.org **COSTS to ADVERTISE:**

Full page AD: \$195 1/2 page AD: \$105 1/4 page AD:\$65 **Business card AD: \$40** 

If you encounter problems with an advertiser, please notify Joel Kin, 614-357-1167 or email to: forester\_ads@fpcivic.org

Foresters are available at the Karl Road Library, Donatos Pizza, YMCA, Gabby's Bar & Dairy Queen.

Articles for the October, 2020 Forester are due to editor by September 17, 2020. The October 2020 Forester will be delivered to households sometime near the first Sunday October 4, 2020 It will also be online at fpcivic.org.

#### FORESTER BILLING ADDRESS:

Checks should be made payable to **Forest Park Civic Association and** mailed to : c/o Joel Kin 5760 Firwood Place, Columbus, OH 43229

#### **CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH ARE:**

Rita Woeste, Dan Hartzell, Felix Quachey Katie & Daryl Mercetta, Mike Stone, Tim Dove Lou Bernard, Andy Hunt, Derek Billingsley

#### COLUMBUS GARDEN RAILWAY ANNUAL TOUR



Visit www.theores.org for locations in Centr

#### In our Backyard Neighborhood

Looking for something different and fun to do with the family after LABOR DAY? The Columbus Garden Railway Society (CGRS) is having their 2020 Fall Garden Tour Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, from 1-5pm. Rain (bring an umbrella) or shine the tour is on! Masks are required for entry and we will follow all social distancing guidelines. Due to Covid-19 pandemic our number of participants are a bit smaller than previous years, however at press time there are currently twelve garden railways open for your enjoyment.

The closest site for our neighborhood is the Forest Park Garden RR in Forest Park West. The next closest would be The Crawford Valley RR in Columbus, along with the Sweet Hollow RR and the Hacker Express RR in Westerville. Others on the tour this year are in Worthington, Dublin, New Albany, Grove City and Mt Sterling. A complete list and locations for this year's tour is available at

The Forest Park address is at 5785 Lindenwood Rd in Forest Park West.

The Columbus Garden Railway Society (CGRS) is a unique, organization whose goals are to have fun with garden railroading and the sharing information on the hobby. The group is simply an informal gathering of people interested in gardening and railroading. We all subscribe the 10-foot rule, which loosely translates to "If it looks good from 10 feet away, then it is good enough".

Membership in the Columbus Garden Railway Society (CGRS) is open to anyone. While the name of the organization refers to garden railroading, ownership of a garden railroad is not necessary. Many of our members have a G-scale railroad in their garden or yard, others may have one in their basement or other room of their home, and yet others may choose to not have one at all. That is not important. What is important is that all of our members share a common interest and love of our hobbies. Submitted by Tim Dove



Revenue

Expense

JULY 2020 **Treasurer's** Report.

Submitted by Dan Hartzell

		Forest Pa	ark	Civic Associa	ation	1				
Treasurer's Report		2020		2020		Budget		Budget	YTD Difference	
3	95	July		YTD		July		YTD	Actual vs Budget	
Membership	5	3,725.00	\$	11,900.00	S	2,475.00	\$	12,350.00	-3.64%	
Business Membership	S	75.00	\$	200.00	5	-	\$	300.00	-33.33%	
Supplement Security	\$	657.50	\$	1,995.00	S	300.00	\$	1,350.00	47.78%	
Interest	5	0.31	\$	1.27	5	0.30	\$	1.20	5.83%	
Forester	S	675.00	\$	1,874.50	S	900.00	\$	3,731.55	-49.77%	
Additional Donations	\$	613.00	\$	1,448.00	\$	200.00	\$	1,050.00	37.90%	
Garage Sale/Wecome Advertising	1	- 3	\$		\$	2.7	\$	120.00	-100.00%	
Beautification	\$	97.50	\$	727.50	5	200.00	\$	550.00	32.27%	
Total	\$	5,843.31	\$	18,146.27	\$	4,075.30	\$	19,452.75	-6.72%	
Membership	s	40.13	Ś	2,503.43	s	70.00	s	2,715.00	-7.79%	
Supplement Security	S	875.00	S	2,250.00	Ś	1,125.00	\$	2,875.00	-21.74%	
Forester	S	1,396.00	S	3,267.80	S	1,275.00	\$	4,925.00	-33,65%	
Liability Insurance		7	S	-	S		\$	-		
Miscellaneous			\$	E .	5	192	\$	7.23		
Northland Community Council			\$		5	72	\$	310.00	-100.00%	
Treasurer Expenses	\$	42.51	5	42.51	S	10.00	\$	30.00	41.70%	
Island Maintenance	\$	60.00	\$	240.00	s	90.00	\$	480.00	-50.00%	
Garage Sale			\$	-	5	74	\$	50.00	-100.00%	
Beautification Awards			\$	8 - F6	5	- 19	\$	0.00		
Outreach Day	- 10		5		s	125.00	\$	125.00	-100.00%	
4th of July Parade		5.	\$		\$	200.00	\$	200.00	-100.00%	
Welcome Committee			\$	2	S	12	\$	300.00	-100.00%	
Social Activities			\$	185.94	\$	300.00	\$	645.00	-71.17%	
Total	5	2,413.64	\$	8,489.68	5	3,195.00	\$	12,655.00	-32.91%	
Net Income/Loss	5	3,429.67	\$	9,656.59	\$	880.30	\$	6,797.75	42.06%	
Account Balances at end of month	\$ 33,143.38		$\vdash$	-			-			

## OIL CHANGE & Lube SPECIAL

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## **Supplemental Security News**









Hello Forest Park! As many of you are aware, there has been a lot of turmoil, including several reports of shootings, in our neighborhood lately. If you missed the Civic Association meeting on Tuesday, Officer Scott Clinger and City Attorney Sarah Pomeroy were the guest speakers and provided some insight into the situation. Attorney Pomeroy is the city attorney assigned to our area and is currently working on filing a nuisance abatement suit against the property owners regarding the shootings that took place at 5301 Hedgewood Avenue, which both she and Officer Clinger believe to now be vacant. It is believed that the property on Hedgewood is feuding with a house on Karl. With the increase of crime in our neighborhood, it is vital for our community that if you see something suspicious, you report it immediately. Your identity will remain confidential. If it's an emergency, please call 911; otherwise, the non-emergency police number is 614-645-4545.

During the meeting, Officer Clinger and Attorney Pomeroy also addressed the concerns raised about the COVID-positive site for people who are homeless not following proper quarantine protocols. She will look into the issues and plans to work with the directors of the homeless program and Attorney Steve Dunbar to resolve them. If you have any questions or concerns, Officer Clinger can be reached at 614-645-1418 or <a href="mailto:sclinger@columbuspolice.org">sclinger@columbuspolice.org</a> and Attorney Pomeroy can be reached at 614-645-8619 or <a href="mailto:scpomeroy@columbus.gov">scpomeroy@columbus.gov</a>.

As more people are outside, tending to their properties, we are receiving more complaints about tall grass and abandoned vehicles. Those concerns should be sent to 311 to be properly monitored and handled. If you plan to travel and are a paid Forest Park Civic Association Member, please send your supplemental security housecheck requests to Daryl Van Mercetta at <a href="mailto:dvanmercetta@gmail.com">dvanmercetta@gmail.com</a>; 513-479-2416; 2131 Hon-



eytree Court, Columbus, OH 43229 or by filling out the supplemental security request form at fpcivic.org.

One of the things that make Forest Park a great place to live is the way we celebrate the successes and come together in times of strife. Now is a time for us to come together.

As always, if you see something, say something and stay safe everyone!

## Supplemental Security House Check Forest Park Business Members and Homeowner Members only!

Use this form to have your home checked while you are on vacation. The form will be passed on to the supplemental security officer and the Security Officers.

,	, -				
Name	Address	Phone Please notify			
Vacation Dates: Depart	Return				
Addresskey?	Phone	Who has	M		
Address	Phone		Daryl Va 2131 Hon 513-4		
Lights on timer? Loc			En <b>Ivanmerce</b> t		
Will older children be in and o					

Mail to:

Daryl Van Mercetta 2131 Honeytree Court 513-479-2416

Or

Email at: dvanmercetta@gmail.com

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#### Support our Local Business Members!!

If you know of a business who would like to advertise in the Forester or just become a FPCA business member, have them contact Forester Editor, 614-785-1555 or email forester\_ed@fpcivic.org for information.



(614) 895-1122

## STEVEN K. BORING

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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5753 Firwood Place Columbus, Ohio 43229 614/885-0437

#### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

It was recently brought to my attention by the immediate past-President of the Forest Park Civic Association; Mr. Ed Vanasadale, that several of the motels/hotels in our area are being used to house members of the homeless population in Columbus who have tested positive for COVID-19. Fortunately, this information was received right before our civic association meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> and with representatives from the city attending, I took the opportunity to seek confirmation.

Yes, I can confirm that the City of Columbus is indeed housing COVID-positive members of the homeless population at a couple of motels/hotels on Mediterranean Ave off SR-161. This is behind the Waffle House restaurant on SR-161. No, the civic association was not made aware that the city had taken this decision and it doesn't appear that there is any framework in place to keep them quarantined as they seem to be able to make their way up and down SR-161 engaging in panhandling activities. I am bringing this matter to the attention of all residents because there has been an increase in panhandling activity in and around SR-161 and some of the shopping plazas in our area. In many cases, the individuals asking for a helping hand are NOT wearing masks which presents a serious public health hazard.

I understand that many folks have fallen on hard times; however, panhandlers should not be in the street and potentially obstruct traffic thereby endangering motorists and themselves. Please note that if you are moved to bless a panhandler and you are caught doing so in a manner that obstructs or impedes traffic, you could be cited by the police. If you are moved to help, please do so safely by pulling off the road and ask the person in need to come to your car off the street so you can help them. Be sure to wear a mask as you can never be sure if they are part of the COVID-positive population discussed earlier.

I am waiting on an update on this matter from a city representative and will pass that information on as I receive it.

Felix S. Quachey Jr. President, Forest Park Civic Association

#### Forest Park Civic Association Meeting minutes

Tuesday August 11, 2020 - Online Zoom Meeting

Meeting called to order and Pledge of Allegiance opened the meeting @ 7:00 PM byFelix Quachey

Roll Call: Taken by Lou Bernard - <a href="loubernard3@gmail.com">loubernard3@gmail.com</a>
Attendance: Officers and Committee Chairs in Attendance: FQ, SP, DH, LB, RW, MS, EV, SL, AR, MS, ER

Officers and Committee Chairs Absent: PW, DVM, KVM Area Representatives in attendance: 3, 11

Area Representatives Absent: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14

#### Officer's Reports

President's Report: Felix Quachey - fquachey@AmFam.com

1. Welcomed all to the 1st August meeting in a really long time. In past years, we would be at the NCC Picnic for this meeting.

2. Guest Speakers: Officer Scott Clinger and City Attorney Sarah Pomeroy. Sarah is the city attorney assigned to our area in the city-Police Zone 1. She is working shootings on 5301 Hedgewood Ave. by filing a Nuisance Abatement suit against the property owners by the end of the week. At this point, both Sarah and Scott believe the property to be vacant. There is a problem house on 5337 Karl Rd. It is believed the 2 properties are retaliating against each other, but that is not confirmed. From Scott Clinger: There has been an uptick in violent crime in the area. So if something looks suspicious, please call it in! You will be kept anonymous. There have been concerns raised that the Covid Positive site for the homeless is not keeping its residents in quarantine. Sarah will be looking into this to work with the directors of the homeless program about these issues. Atty. Steve Dunbar is working on this issue as well. Questions and concerns can be directed here: Sarah: 614-645-8619, scpomeroy@columbus.gov Scott: 614-645-1418, sclinger@columbuspolice.org

VP's Report: Scott Prigan scottprigan+fpca@gmail.com - None Secretary's Report: Lou Bernard - loubernard3@gmail.com

1. The executive board has been meeting to prepare the FPCA to apply for 501(c)(3) status in order to become a non-profit organization. A pros and cons list was presented, and discussion took place. A vote was taken and the motion passed that we will proceed with filing for non-profit status.

Treasurer's Report: Dan Hartzell - danbobl@email.com

- 1. FPCA is down 40 memberships year to date--476 total memberships. Not bad considering all that is going on!
- 2. Dan went through line items on the budget, check it out in *The Forester* to see last month and the year to date. We are under budget again.
- 3. New business membership: Forest Park Christian School
- 4. The report and budget was accepted and passed.

#### The Forester Editor's Report: Rita Woeste -

#### forester ed@fpca.org

- 1. The Beautification Awards Committee will most likely be paying home visits to the winners of the awards to take some pictures. And maybe make some signs for their front yards.
- 2. Still working on getting the stuffing procedure streamlined during this pandemic period.
- 3. All future articles are due to Rita on the 18th of every month. We are always looking for articles. Rita discussed the timeline for stuffing and distribution of *The Forester*. September due date for October articles: September 17th!!
- 4. Kudos to George Schmidt for his very positive article on the front page of August's *Forester*! Thanks George.
- 5. Rita would like to get Keith Hanson from the library to write a small article about all of the good things going on there.
- 6. We are still looking for more volunteers to stuff and deliver *Foresters*. Please contact Rita if you can help.

Public Relations Officer's Report: Mary Squerra -

mary.sguerra@herrealtors.com - No Report

**Supplemental Security Officer's Report**: Daryl and Katie Van Marcetta - <a href="dvanmercetta@gmail.com">dvanmercetta@gmail.com</a> - Absent - Report emailed in

1. We addressed everything Daryl and Katie have been hearing about with our guest speakers tonight.

#### **Committee Reports**

Business Representative's Report: Sheridan Landin - sheridan-landon@yahoo.com | Alan Ray - aray.bergahorn@gmail.com

1. Forest Park Christian School is a new business member. Due to Covid, they are not doing a lot of face to face with local business owners.

Social Activities Committee Chair's Report: Pam Weaver - pweaver1208@gmail.com - Absent

1. There will be no National Night Out this year due to the pandemic. Postponing until October, however that may change.

Welcome Committee Chair's Report: Ellin Ray - eclaire1226@gmail.com - No Report

## Volunteer Coordinator/Membership Committee Chair's Report: Mike Stone - <a href="msto0103@yahoo.com">msto0103@yahoo.com</a>

- 1. We are not going to have the door-to-door membership blitz, like we usually do. We will see what happens later on in the pandemic.
- 2. Mike is looking to get 70 more memberships! Come on people, help us reach our goal. Let's keep Mike happy!
- 3. Getting ready to go through the Volunteer Forms and see what people would like to work on.
- 4. Masks for Seniors: We have distributed 70+ masks to Senior based households in FPCA. People are still thanking FPCA for their work in this area. We still have more masks. Please contact Mike via email if you need one or two.
- 5. Thanks to all those participated in the Beautification Awards, lots of nominations! Winners will be announced in the *Forester*. **Northland Community Council Dvpt. Committee Representative's Report:** Ed Vanasdale <a href="mailto:evanasdale@insight.rr.com">evanasdale@insight.rr.com</a> | Dave Paul <a href="mailto:dwpaul@fpcivic.org">dwpaul@fpcivic.org</a>
- 1. Only 2 presentations: A) Russell Tree Service wants to buy a property from Walt Reiner's estate in the old Johnny Appleseed Industrial Park. They want to be able to make mulch for their landscaping business, not for retail. B) The Mid Ohio Food Collective is looking for property in the Northland Area. They were looking to purchase the Haimerl Center, but Ascension Luthern had already gone into contract with someone else to purchase the property.
- 2. Rt. 161 & Maple Canyon Round-a-bout. The city is now ready to share info about this project. They will be meeting with NCC leadership this week (Aug.13), and will have an open meeting later on. Check out info about the project here: https://publicinput.com/H718

## Northland Community Council Representative's Report: Scott Prigan - <a href="mailto:scottprigan+fpca@gmail.com">scottprigan+fpca@gmail.com</a>

- 1. NCC talked extensively about the Hedgewood shooting incident.
- 2. Keith Hanson, from Col. Metro. Library Karl Rd. Branch, visited and talked about all of the good things going on there.
- 3. Shannon Hardin (City Council President) was present to discuss "Reimagining Public Safety".
- 4. Also discussed voter outreach going on in Columbus.

**Website Administrator's Report:** Scott Prigan - <u>scottprigan+fpca@gmail.com</u> - No Report

#### **Old Business**

None

#### New Business

- 1. Sympathy card for the family of the FP resident who passed away in the fire on Tamarack Blvd. Approved.
- 2. FPCA sign on Maple Canyon needs replacing. This was brought up months ago, but it still hasn't been replaced. MAry has a replacement sign. A motion was made and passed to get estimates of replacement cost for signs. City Sign Co. made the old signs.

8:48 pm Meeting Adjourned Submitted by Lou Bernard, FPCA Secretary

#### So much more than Construction at the Karl Rd Library

The Karl Road Branch library staff are finding many ways to safely offer the Northland community options for resources, books and assistance. The Karl Road Branch offers curbside pickup for you to receive your reserved items. Just call in

from the parking lot or walk up area and staff will be out quickly to deliver your reserves. Looking for something good to read but not sure what? Just ask and a staff member will be happy to help shop for you and pull some great books! Other services available at curbside include mobile printing, faxing, scanning and copying of your documents.



The Karl Road Branch is also open for

limited access inside the building for public computer use. Printing, faxing, scanning and copying of documents is available inside as well as options to check out lots of great books. Starting on August 31<sup>st</sup>, dedicated staff will be available to offer Job Help Center services Monday-Thursday 11-2 PM & 3-5 PM. For additional information and resources, click on "Services" > "Job and Career Help" at <a href="https://www.columbuslibrary.org">www.columbuslibrary.org</a>.

Columbus Metropolitan Library is now offering Online K-12 Homework Help. There are multiple ways for students, teachers and parents to connect with staff ready to answer questions about homework (K-12) and to help students practice reading (K-3). Help is available Monday-Friday 9-5 PM. There is also evening Homework Help options where Online Tutors are available Monday-Friday 2-11 PM. For additional information and resources, click on "Services" > "School Help" at www.columbuslibrary.org.

The Karl Road staff are happy to help connect you with the resources and books that you need. Current hours are Monday-Thursday 9-7 PM, Friday-Saturday 9-6 PM and Sunday 1-5 PM. Check out <a href="https://www.columbuslibrary.org">www.columbuslibrary.org</a> for the latest updates.

**Submitted by Keith Hanson** | Branch Manager **Columbus Metropolitan Library** | Karl Road Branch

## **Need 70 More Memberships**

- I am <u>so appreciative</u> of this amazing community for its support of FPCA. In a year that is... well...different than most, we are finding so many residents providing amazing help. It started with volunteers who worked to assemble and mail about 3,000 membership envelopes this past May. Without much additional promotion and without a door to door campaign, we have received a very good re-
- sponse thus far. Frankly, it has been very uplifting.

So in a year where we were anticipating a financial gut punch, we are 70 memberships away from meeting our budget that we forecasted last December. If you have not yet given your membership, we could really use your help in getting

us over the finish line.

The membership is only \$25 and can be mailed to: FPCA, P.O. Box 29160, Columbus, OH 43229-0160. An easier way is to go to our website at <a href="https://www.fpcivic.org/join/">https://www.fpcivic.org/join/</a>. You can make a paypal payment and be done with it right there!! You can also call to arrange a pickup at 614 218-1788. Please help us get to the finish line and thank you so much.

Mike Stone

# All of Forest Park pick up is still on Fridays, we are Part B of the Friday Program.



Schedule for Forest Park Yard Waste & Recycle dates are: \*\*\*

September 4, 18 & October 2, 16, 30



Yard Waste & Blue
Can Recycling
happens on
Friday or Saturday,
every other week.

### Here's what goes in the blue cart:

Aluminum and steel cans - and lids. Flattened cardboard and pizza boxes (free of food and grease). Plastic bottles/jugs. Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, computer paper, cereal and other dry food boxes and phone books. Glass bottles and jars. Cartons and juice boxes

#### **BULK TRASH**

Some large items cannot be thrown away because they are too big to fit in your trash container. Residents should contact the City's 311 Customer Service Center to schedule bulk items by calling 311 or 614-645-3111, or online

at: www.311.columbus.gov

NO BULK ITEMS WILL BE COLLECTED UNLESS THE RESIDENT SCHEDULES COLLECTION ONLINE

#### <u>Forest Park-2020</u> Business Memberships

#### Churches

Epworth United Methodist 5100 Karl Road 614-885-8015

Karl Road Christian Church 5400 Karl Road 614-888-3444

#### Home, Services

Mary Sguerra HER Realtors 614-818-7636

Columbus Window & Siding Doug Bond 614-453-5332

Jonathan Allen Landscape

jallen8352@wowway.com
614-899-6085

Schoedinger North Chapel 5554 Karl Rd 614-224-6105

#### <u>Restaurants</u>

Donatos Pizza 1891 Tamarack Circle www.Donatos.com

#### Gabby's

1887 Tamarack Circle (614) 433-0583

#### Shopping, Services

Circle Mart 1876 Tamarack Circle (614) 885-3514

Northside Family Dental 5770 Karl Rd. Ste. 100 614-846-8340

Kreiger Ford 1800 Morse Road 614-783-3673



HADLER Companies

2000 W. Henderson Road

#### Beautification Awards for Forest Park

Thanks to the all of the neighbors who nominated households for Beautiful Front Yard Landscapes. We had over 20 nominations and once the volunteer team had a chance to view all of the gorgeous flowers and plantings the

winners were chosen. (pictures on page 1 of this issue) In Forest Park West, 5785 Lindenwood and 1357 Vinewood were selected top choices. 5258 Blue Ash and 2128 Lilacwood were the Forest Park East winners. We saw some exceptional gardens this year and loved the variety of plantings that folks have used. Winners were surprised with a visit by Mike Stone and Rita Woeste who presented winners with a certificate, a gift card to Kroger and a sign that will remain in their yard at least thru Labor Day. We really enjoyed meeting the happy winners. We truly appreciate all of the gardening efforts of all of the nominees, the team had to make several walk or



drive bys to make their final choices. We would like to recognize all of the homes that were nominated because as a person who does not possess much of a green thumb, all of these homes took time, money and sweat to make Forest Park look beautiful this summer. Below is a list of those nominees, I apologize if I missed an address the team had viewed. We look forward to doing this again next year. Thanks to Mike, Elieen, Lora, and Mary for their time and input to make this year such a success.

Submitted by Rita Woeste

5691 Sandalwood	5389 Tamarack	5138 Maplewood
5419 Larkwood	5126 Riverbirch N	5337 Hedgewood
5258 Blue Ash	5186 Paw Paw	1368 Vinewood
5361 Tamarack	1783 Larkwood	2128 Lilacwood
5530 Teakwood Ct	1847 Tamarack Circle	4944 Dunlap
5245 Arrowwood Ct	5785 Lindenwood	5617 Firwood
1383 Firwood	5511 Rockwood	1501 Sandalwood
5285 Hedgewood	5301 Torchwood Loop E	1357 Vinewood



#### **September Garage Sales**

Due to the ongoing and ever changing Covid-19 issues FPCA will not be sponsoring a community garage sale this Fall. We plan to bring it back in Spring 2021







### President's Message

My fellow residents,

As I write this article we are still amid an uncertain time in our country and the world. Many families and communities all over our city and country are still reeling from the vast impact of the pandemic. Overall, however; I am pleased to say that our community has shown how resilient it is. I have heard many reports of residents coming together to help each other out not because they are seeking recognition; but because this is just the nature of folks we have that live here in Forest Park. I am happy to say that I have seen much more of the best of who we are as a community on display during this challenging time. I want to take a moment to thank George Schmidt, a past-President of our civic association for his wonderful article on the front page of the August Forester. It was a very timely reminder of all the little yet wondrous things we take for granted in our community. I take this opportunity to applaud you all and encourage you to harness that same spirit and have it permanently drive how we relate to one another as members of this wonderful community!

Unfortunately, I am also aware that these last few months have also had some periods of concern for many of our residents. There has been an increase in the number of shootings in and around our area. It comes as no comfort to hear that according to our Police Liaison; violent crime is up all over the city. If I lived in close enough proximity to a house that was shot at several times in the space of a few days, that would give me little comfort. This is not the type of community we desire nor deserve. If you were one of many who missed our last civic association meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday August 11th, we had in attendance, our Police Liaison Officer Scott Clinger and the City Attorney for Zone 1, Sarah Pomeroy in attendance to discuss steps being taken within legal bounds to help us eliminate this type of situation in our neighborhood. There is an ongoing investigation and as such not very many details could be divulged; however, in addition to the police investigation, the City Attorney has also filed a nuisance abatement lawsuit against the property in question. This type of suit is also a vehicle by which any specific individual(s) who are found to be the cause of said crimes of violence can be legally barred from residing at the property. Due to COVID-19, the court's schedule is backed up; however, there should a court date set in the coming weeks regarding the matter.

I must also take this opportunity to stress to ALL residents to stop the practice of setting off fireworks at night. In a time when gun violence is attempting to creep into our community, it is important that we can count on a quiet environment in which we can isolate and report the direction of gunshots. With that said, per the advice of our Police Liaison, I urge all residents to call the police non-emergency number and report anything they think could have been gunfire to the non-emergency number at 614-645-4545 then press "\*" to be connected to a live operator. I must stress that you must report it as follows; "My name is , I live at 123 X Street and I would like to report what sounded like gunfire to me." I must stress that if you are witnessing a crime involving gunfire call 911. The police will not identify you when responding to the call; however, in order to make sure that the call is taken seriously, you must give them enough information to go on. It is very important that we report each and every incident in order to create as uncomfortable an environment as possible for this type of behavior to grow in. It will take ALL of us to stamp it out so if you see something, please make the call!! Lastly, per the City Attorney, if you have any information regarding the one house on Hedgewood where all the shootings took place, she is asking that you email her at. **SCPomeroy@columbus.gov**. She stated that no detail is too small even if it's just people or cars coming and going. On this matter, I end by assuring you all that our community is not suddenly a hotbed of violence. I asked our Police Liaison if there was anything out of the ordinary happening in our neighborhood that should be of grave concern to us. I asked if we should be putting our homes up for sale and fleeing the neighborhood. He assured me that we are far from being a problem area with regard to crime and that as long as we continue to report incidents at a high rate enough resources will get assigned to addressing them.

I end with a final charge---continue to socially distance, do wear a mask when unable to socially distance, use this time to build better relationships with your neighbors and get to know new ones, and lastly, commit to being part of the solution when it comes to strengthening our community!

Thanks for Reading Felix Quachey, FPCA President

I am a member of Forest Park and work with Boy Scout Troop #613. Due to COVID-19, our Scouts are not allowed to go door-to-door for their popcorn sales. Profits from the popcorn sale helps the youth with camp, uniforms, equipment and quality programs. If you would like to see our over 15 choices of popcorn items go to this link:



https://skcscouts.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/ Simon Kenton Fall 2020 Inside.pdf

Contact Derek of Pack 613 at 614-754-0571 for info and to place orders. We are accepting new scouts, grades k-5. Join us Monday evening, 1479 Morse Rd, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Thanks

Submitted by Derek Billingsley

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## FEATURING:

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### Loving the Place You Live

If I were writing a book about neighboring I would start with how we feel about our place. Do we like the place we live? Or are we always complaining about our neighborhood? Good neighboring starts with a positive perspective on the place we call home. You have to love the place you live to practice good neighboring.



As a relatively new resident, I just want to go on record that I really love my new neighborhood of Forest Park. I love the mature trees. I love the sidewalks. I love that I can walk to many of the places I want to go. I can walk to the YMCA for my daily workout. I can walk to the library for a book or to Gabby's for drink. I can walk down to Riziki's for a taste of East Africa; Drelyse or Majesty for a taste of West Africa. My wife even walks to Kroger occasionally if her shopping list is not too long. I could walk to the bowling alley or to Dairy Queen for an after dinner treat. If I need a haircut I can walk down to Ken Biney's. I love being able to walk to the places I need to go.

I love the diversity. We have so many treasures in our neighborhood. We have West Africans and East Africans. We have Nepalis, Somalis, Vietnamese, Latinos and many more. In short we have a microcosm of the world right here in our own back yard. The rich cultural heritage of dozens of people groups are right here in Forest Park. It's such a rare gift.

I really love living in Forest Park. People are friendly, at least the ones I've met. We have an association of residents who care about the health and flourishing of our community. We have our own sign welcoming folks to our neighborhood. I get a little proud every time I drive by that sign. I know, every neighborhood can be better, but we have a good amount of residents who want it to be better and are willing to work to make it so. What do you love about Forest Park?

There must be many neighboring practices we could identify and elaborate on. Maybe my book on neighboring would devote a chapter to each practice we could think of. But good neighboring starts with loving the place you live.

Submitted by Andy Hunt, Forest Park Neighbor





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**Sept. 2020** 



#### MARY SGUERRA

CBR \$25 MILLION CLUB FOREST PARK RESIDENT 818-7636

#### **Dear Neighbors:**

I hope everyone had a great summer and the kids & parents are figuring out this new way of going back to school during this Covid 19 time. The real estate market has continued to be very busy and many people are still looking to make a move into our area. There continues to be a shortage of homes for sale so if you are thinking of making a move - please give me a call. I specialize in this area and I'm always here to help.

Just give me a call and let me show you what HER and I can do for you

#### 3 NEW LISTINGS:

5540 Sandalwood Blvd. - Ranch w/3BR's, 2 BA's, Family Rm. Florida Rm & LL Rec Rm. & 1 car gar. \$195,500 5414 Teakwood Ct. - 4 Level Split with 3 BR's, 2.5 BA's, Family Rm. 2 car garage \$198,000 5181 Maplewood Ct. W. - 2 Story w/4 BR's, 1.5 BA's, Family Room, Patio 2 car garage. \$198,000

#### **CURRENT MARKET WATCH**

The following homes are **For Sale** with **HER Realtors:** 5181 Maplewood Ct. W. 2-Sty/4BR 198,000 \*

I KNOW FOREST PARK! I LIVE IN FOREST PARK! I SELL FOREST PARK!

#### **HER Realtors** homes **In Contract**

2199 Teakwood Dr. © 2-Sty/3BR 174,900 **5748 Firwood Pl. Ranch/3BR 215,000 5540 Sandalwood Bl. Ranch/3BR 195,500** 5425 Vinewood Ct. Split/4BR 229,500 **5414 Teak wood Ct. 2-Sty/4BR 198,000** 

(C)=In Contract Contingent (E)=I/C w/Escape clause

All Homes SO	LD	Asking	Sold			Asking	Sold	
Homes sold since 7/16/20		Price:	Price:			Price:	Price:	
1741 Pin Oak Dr.	Ranch/3BR	155,000	168,000	5300 Hazelwood Rd.	Ranch/3BR	199,000	200,000	
1695 Rocky Pine Lp N	Ranch/3BR	169,000	188,500	1768 Rocky Pin Lp N	Bilvl/3BR	199,900	211,000	
1314 Ironwood Dr.	Ranch/4BR	179,900	175,000	2050 Northtowne Ct.	Split/4BR	200,000	220,900	
1643 Norma Rd	Split/3BR	185,000	190,000	2174 Blackoak Ave.	Split/3BR	203,000	203,000	
1469 Sandalwood Pl	Bilvl/3BR	187,000	194,000	1312 Gumwood Dr.	2-Sty/4BR	209,900	225,000	
5780 Satinwood Dr.	Ranch/3BR	195,000	194,900	2023 Fleetwood Dr.	2-Sty/4BR	225,000	221,000	
5171 Paw Paw Rd.	Split/3BR	195,000	195,000	5433 Aspen Rd.	2-Sty/4BR	238,000	215,000	
Information obtained from the Columbus Realtors - MLS as of 8/19/20. If your								
property is currently listed For Sale with another realtor please disregard this offer.								